AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-24, 31-49, 51-56 and 58 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 25-29 and 50 are amended. Claims 59-66 are added. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

Claims 1-24 (Cancelled.)

Claim 25. (Currently amended.) A variant of a parent alpha-amylase, said variant comprising a substitution of a K at an amino acid position corresponding to an amino acid selected from the group consisting of 118, 320 and 458 (using the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:12 for numbering), wherein the variant has alpha-amylase activity, and wherein the variant has at least 90% homology to the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:12.

Claim 26. (Currently amended.) The variant of claim 25, comprising ~~an alteration~~a substitution of R118K.

Claim 27. (Currently amended.) The variant of claim 25, comprising ~~an alteration~~a substitution of R320K.

Claim 28. (Currently amended.) The variant of claim 25, comprising ~~an alteration~~a substitution of R458K.

Claim 29. (Currently amended.) The variant of claim 25, comprising ~~an alteration~~a substitution of R118K, R320K and R458K.

Claim 30. (Previously presented.) The variant of claim 25, wherein the parent alpha-amylase is *Bacilus sp.* DSMZ no. 12649 alpha-amylase.

Claims 31-49 (Cancelled.)

Claim 50. (Currently amended.) The variant of claim 25, wherein the variant has at least 95% homology with an amino acid sequence ~~of~~ shown in SEQ ID NO:12.

Claim 51-56. (Cancelled.)

Claim 57. (Currently amended.) The variant of claim 25, wherein the variant has at least 97% homology with an amino acid sequence ~~of~~ shown in SEQ ID NO:12.

Claim 58. (Cancelled.)

Claim 59. (New.) A non-naturally occurring, modified parent alpha-amylase comprising a modification of a position corresponding to an amino acid selected from the group consisting of position 118, 320 and 458 (using the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:12 for numbering), wherein the modification is a substitution of a K for the amino acid naturally occurring at said position in the parent alpha-amylase such that a K is not naturally present in said alpha-amylase prior to said modification, and wherein the non-naturally occurring, modified parent alpha-amylase has alpha-amylase activity and at least 90% homology to the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:12.

Claim 60. (New.) The non-naturally occurring, modified parent alpha-amylase of claim 59, comprising a modification of R118K.

Claim 61. (New.) The non-naturally occurring, modified parent alpha-amylase of claim 59, comprising a modification of R320K.

Claim 62. (New.) The non-naturally occurring, modified parent alpha-amylase of claim 59, comprising a modification of R458K.

Claim 63. (New.) The non-naturally occurring, modified parent alpha-amylase of claim 59, comprising a modification of R118K, R320K and R458K.

Claim 64. (New.) The non-naturally occurring, modified parent alpha-amylase of claim 59, wherein the parent alpha-amylase is *Bacillus sp.* DSMZ no. 12649 alpha-amylase.

Claim 65. (New.) The non-naturally occurring, modified parent alpha-amylase of claim 59, wherein the variant has at least 95% homology with an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID

NO:12.

Claim 66. (New.) The non-naturally occurring, modified parent alpha-amylase of claim 59, wherein the variant has at least 97% homology with an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:12.